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Tebid, Theophilus Nji

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D I S A S T E R P L A N N I N G A N D P R E P A R E D N E S S:

T H E C A S E OF PROTEA-SOUTH, JOH A N N E S B U R G.

Theophilus Nji Tebid

A dissertation submitted to the Faculty of Engineering and the Built Environment, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, in fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of Master of Science in Development Planning.

Department of Town, Regional and Development Planning
University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg
South Africa.

October 2006

DECLARATION:

1. **I Theophilus Nji Tebid** (student Number: **0315495D**) am a student registered for the dissertation in the year 2006. I hereby declare the following;

- I am aware that plagiarism is wrong.
- I confirm that the work presented for the assessment of the above course is my own unaided work, except where I have explicitly indicated otherwise.
- I have followed the required conventions in referring the thoughts, ideas, and visual materials of others.
- I understand that the University of Witwatersrand may take disciplinary action against me if there is a believe that this is not my own unaided work or that I have failed to acknowledge the source of the ideas or words in my writing.

Signed----------Day of----------Year----------

ABSTRACT

Despite increasing philosophical knowledge of disaster planning and preparedness, disasters still remain a challenge in many communities. As a result, communities, environment and economies remain considerably vulnerable and at the risk of disaster destruction hence, sustainable development is undermined.

The purpose of this study is to review and assess the state of community readiness in order to prevent and mitigate common hazards in the City of Johannesburg, especially in previously disadvantaged communities such as Protea-South. A survey and interviews was conducted with the local community members.

Results show that, this community like many others, is at high risk, due to their living circumstances. e.g. the presence of densely built shacks on a flood plain; poor hygiene and sanitation, pollution, poverty etc. There is therefore a need for a paradigm shift by institutions from emergency response and the provision of hard infrastructure to disaster prevention, preparedness and soft infrastructure provision by means of an approach encompassing collaborative planning.

DEDICATION:

I dedicate this dissertation to the following persons:

- **My wife who has always been there for me in prayers and in spirit**
- **To Mr. Thomas Jaffason who gave me "kick off"**
- **To my late parents particularly my grand mother**
- **To my auntie in Tiko for her motherly support through out my childhood**
- **To Esther Malebo who gave me all the support here in South Africa at a time I needed most**

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7. **Mr. Daniel, k. Protea-South CDF. Acting chair person**
8. **The entire TRPL staff for their support.**

Particular thanks to Mr Alfred Mabaso who offered me accommodation in Protea-South and treated me all along more than just a friend. Thanks to all the community members who gave up their useful time to tell me about the history of their settlement.

"ALL YOUR SUPPORT LAID A BRIDGE FOR ME TO CROSS OVER!!"

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ACRONYMS

ANC	African National Congress
CoJ	City of Johannesburg
CDC	Centre for Disease Control and Prevention
CRED	Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters
DRFAR	Disaster Relief Fund Annual Report
DFID	Department for International Development
EMPs	Environmental Management Programmes
EMS	Emergency Medical Services
GEAR	Growth Employment and Redistribution
GJMC	Greater Johannesburg Metropolitan Council
IDP	Integrated Development Plan
JOSHCO	Johannesburg Social Housing Co-operation
LED	Local Economic Development
MLC	Metropolitan Local Council
NGO	Non Governmental Organisations
PIZ	Priority Intervention Zones
RDP	Reconstruction and Development Programmes
UNDP	United Nations Development Programmes
UNCHS	United Nations Centre for Human Settlements
UN/ISDR	United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
WHO	World Health Organisation
WSSD	World Summit for Sustainable Development (WSSD)